

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/573,292

Examiner

Cynthia Hamilton

Applicant(s)

TSUBAKI ET AL.

Art Unit

1752

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 5/10/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 9 and 11-25.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

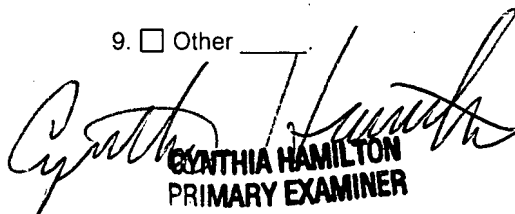
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


CYNTHIA HAMILTON
PRIMARY EXAMINER

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Claims 9 and 11-25 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: With respect to the instant compositions allowed, the examiner notes that the showing by applicants summarized in Table 1 gives sufficient evidence of unobvious physical properties obtained from photosensitive flexographic plates when making use of the limits of $2.5 \leq (2 \times W2 + 3 \times W3 + 4 \times W4) / (W2 + W3 + W4) \leq 3.8$ with respect to the combined properties of smoothness, antiflow, stickiness and thin line reproducibility. The comparisons for to high of instant A-B diblock in comparative Example 1 and the showings in Comparative 2 and 3 for above the range and below the range of mixtures of dibranch, tribranch and tetrabranch product are held to also support evidence of unexpected results when using these ratios over either a fully tetbra block coupled sample or a linear diblock coupled sample as found in the prior art of record such as the JP 10-73921 reference wherein no example within this range was found and the range while overlapping does not point to the unexpected properties of shown by applicants for the range of $x+z=3$ and $n=1$ and $m=1$. The examiner adds to the record an English machine translation of JP 10-73921 as further evidence that the range of blocks and type of blocks set forth in the instant invention are not explicitly set forth by JP 10-73921. The working example of JP 10-73921 does not read on the instant combinations of coupled block polymers but instead of having a styrene block at all ends of the coupled polymer has an unsaturated diene block as one coupled unit and an hydrogenated block and styrene block as the other two coupled blocks. The instant compositions require specific ratios of diblock polymer, and specific weight ratios of mixtures

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comprised of specific diblock, triblock, tetrablock coupled block polymers to obtain plate with the unobvious combination of properties set forth with respect to cold flow, adhesiveness and smoothness of product yielding an unexpected fine line reproducibility.

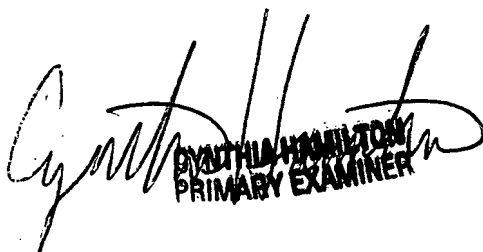
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cynthia Hamilton whose telephone number is 571-272-1331. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 9:30 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cynthia H. Kelly can be reached on (571) 272-0729. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

August 5, 2007


CYNTHIA HAMILTON
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